

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on April 23, 2015: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1912 on May 27, 2015: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2015: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

## APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS CONCERNING INVASIVE SPECIES

### CHAPTER 1048

H.B. No. 1919

#### AN ACT

relating to the applicability of certain provisions concerning invasive species.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 66.007, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subsection (n) to read as follows:

*(n) A water transfer described by this subsection is not a violation of this section. The department may not require a permit under this section for a water transfer described by this subsection. This subsection applies to a water transfer that meets the following criteria:*

*(1) the transfer is through a water supply system, including a related water conveyance, storage, or distribution facility;*

*(2) the transfer is undertaken by a utility owned by a political subdivision, including a water district or municipality; and*

*(3) the transfer is described by one or more of the following:*

*(A) a transfer from a water body in which there is no known exotic harmful or potentially harmful fish or shellfish population;*

*(B) a transfer of water into a water body in which there is a known exotic harmful or potentially harmful fish or shellfish population;*

*(C) a transfer of water directly to a water treatment facility;*

*(D) a transfer of water that has been treated prior to the transfer into a water body; or*

*(E) a transfer of water from a reservoir or through a dam to address flood control or to meet water supply requirements or environmental flow purposes, provided that a person making a transfer of water described by this paragraph from a body of water in which there is a known exotic harmful or potentially harmful fish or shellfish population notifies the department annually in writing before the proposed transfer occurs.*

SECTION 2. Section 66.0072, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

*(g) A water transfer described by this subsection is not a violation of this section. The department may not require a permit under this section for a water transfer described by this subsection. This subsection applies to a water transfer that meets the following criteria:*

*(1) the transfer is through a water supply system, including a related water conveyance, storage, or distribution facility;*

(2) *the transfer is undertaken by a utility owned by a political subdivision, including a water district or municipality; and*

(3) *the transfer is described by one or more of the following:*

(A) *a transfer from a water body in which there is no known exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plant population;*

(B) *a transfer of water into a water body in which there is a known exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plant population;*

(C) *a transfer of water directly to a water treatment facility;*

(D) *a transfer of water that has been treated prior to the transfer into a water body; or*

(E) *a transfer of water from a reservoir or through a dam to address flood control or to meet water supply requirements or environmental flow purposes, provided that a person making a transfer of water described by this paragraph from a body of water in which there is a known exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plant population notifies the department annually in writing before the proposed transfer occurs.*

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 5, 2015: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1919 on May 22, 2015: Yeas 128, Nays 3, 2 present, not voting, the House adopted H.C.R. No. 138 authorizing certain corrections in H.B. No. 1919 on May 28, 2015: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2015: Yeas 30, Nays 0, the Senate adopted H.C.R. No. 138 authorizing certain corrections in H.B. No. 1919 on May 31, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2015.

Effective June 19, 2015.

## QUALIFICATIONS OF SPECIAL JUDGES

### CHAPTER 1049

H.B. No. 1923

#### AN ACT

**relating to qualifications of special judges.**

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 151.003, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.003. **QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGE.** The special judge must be a retired or former district *court*, statutory county court, *statutory probate court*, or appellate *court* judge who:

(1) has served as a judge for at least four years in a district *court*, statutory county court, *statutory probate court*, or appellate court;

(2) has developed substantial experience in *the judge's* ~~his~~ area of specialty;

(3) has not been removed from office or resigned while under investigation for discipline or removal; and

(4) annually demonstrates *completion* ~~[that he has completed]~~ in the past calendar year of at least five days of continuing legal education in courses approved by the state bar or the supreme court.